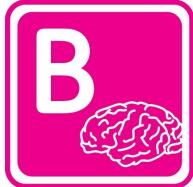


The Royal College of Pathologists

Pathology: the science behind the cure



















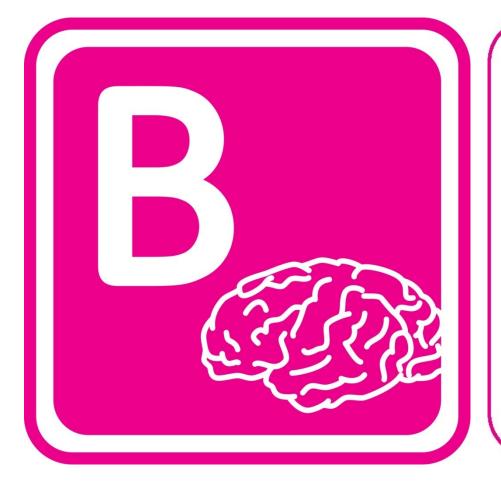








- antibiotics are drugs used to treat bacterial infections
- microbiologists are the pathologists involved in the study and prevention of infectious diseases such as TB and MRSA



- the brain is the organ involved in thinking, moving and memory
- neuropathologists
 are the pathologists
 who study diseases of the brain and nervous
 system

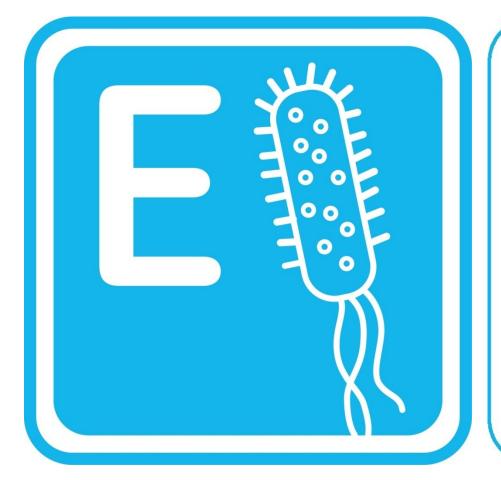


- **cells** are the individual units from which tissues and organs are made
- histopathologists are the pathologists who diagnose disease by studying cells under the microscope





- diabetes is a condition that occurs when the body is unable to regulate the levels of sugar in the blood
- clinical biochemists are the scientists who measure levels of chemicals in the blood



- E.coli is a bacterium normally found in the gut
- it can cause infections, such as food poisoning and urinary tract infections
- the young and old are particularly susceptible



- forensics is the pathology specialty involved in the investigation of unlawful death
- fewer than 1% of pathologists work in this specialty – except on television!



- this represents a molecule of glucose, the sugar that the body uses as fuel
- the level of glucose in the blood is regulated by the hormone insulin, which is produced in the pancreas



- the **heart** beats over 3 billion times in an average lifetime
- heart disease is the most common cause of death in the UK
- risk factors for heart disease include smoking and high blood pressure

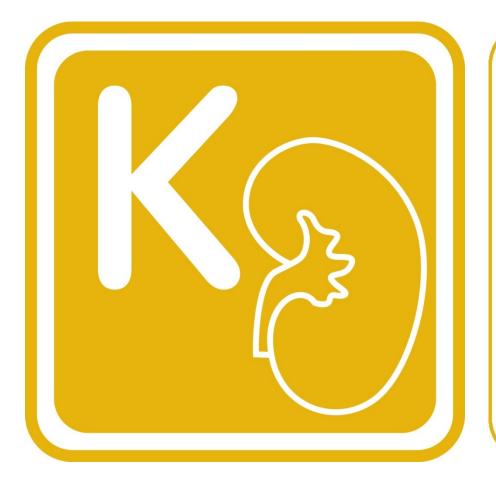


- immunisation is a method used to strengthen the body's ability to fight diseases
- immunology is the pathology specialty involved in the study of the immune system



- a joint is the site at which two or more bones come into contact
- pathologists sometimes examine the fluid or tissue from joints to diagnose disorders such as arthritis or gout





• the **kidneys** have several important functions, including filtering out toxins, keeping water content in the body at the right level, and secreting important hormones.

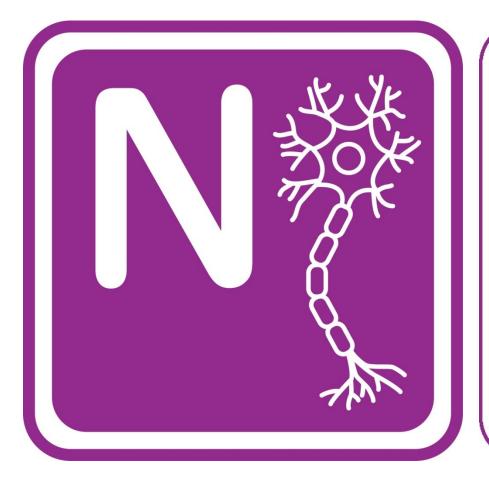


- some pathologists
 wear lab coats to
 protect their clothing
 while working in
 laboratories
- many pathologists work with patients on hospital wards and in outpatient clinics





- a microscope is an instrument used to see objects that are too small to see with the naked eye, such as cells or bacteria
- it is one of the most important inventions in the history of pathology



- a neuron is a specialised nerve cell
- electrical impulses pass along neurons from one part of the body to another
- nerves control our movement, sensation and even our breathing



- an **ovum** (egg) is the female cell that contains half the genetic information needed to make a baby
- spermatozoa, the male sex cells, contain the other half of the information



- pathology isn't just about diagnosing serious diseases, it also helps keep mothers and babies healthy
- women have several pathology tests during pregnancy and babies are tested after birth



- one of the reasons why pathology is such an interesting career is that you never know what you're going to see next
- you need an enquiring mind to work in pathology



- red blood cells are the main constituent of the blood and are responsible for its red colour
- haematologists specialise in the treatment of blood disorders.

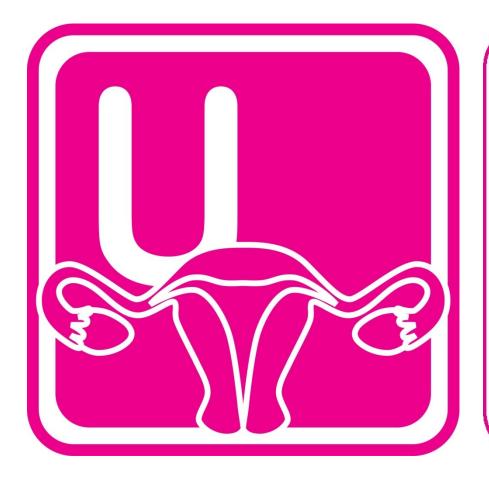


- the adult **skeleton** is made up of 206 bones and provides support and protection for the body's organs
- pathologists investigate disorders of the skeleton such as bone tumours or infections





- blood transfusion is the pathology discipline that ensures that all transfusions are safe and that blood is available when and where it's needed
- 8,000 bags of blood are used in the UK every day



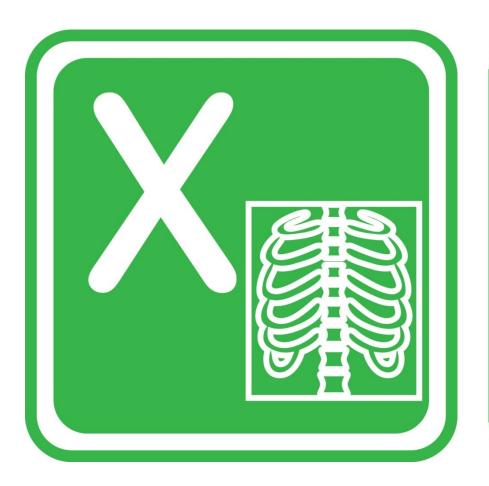
- the **uterus** is another name for the womb, the part of the female reproductive tract where babies grow
- histopathologists
 diagnose uterine
 diseases such as fibroids
 or tumours



- viruses are among the smallest infectious organisms, much smaller than bacteria and invisible even with a standard microscope
- they are studied by virologists



- there are several types of white blood cells, including neutrophils, eosinophils, macrophages and lymphocytes
- they make up about1% of normal blood



- X-rays are performed by non-pathologists (radiologists or radiographers) but can help pathologists make a diagnosis
- pathologists compare what they see under the microscope with x-rays





 We all have two sex chromosomes, the genetic material that determines whether we're male or female men have an X and a Y chromosome (XY), women have two X chromosomes (XX)



- when you visit the **zoo** you might not think about what happens to ill animals, but they need pathologists too!
- veterinary pathology covers all the same specialties as human pathology